What is claimed is:

1. A body for an electrodeless lamp of ceramic material and containing excitable material, the body comprising:

- a body preform of sintered ceramic material, defining the shape of the body which is hollow;
- an aperture in the preform for charging the excitable material into the hollow body; and
- a translucent window, the window and the preform being a coherent unit resulting from the window having been pressed onto the preform when green and the window having been united to the preform on firing of the ceramic material.

2. An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1, wherein the preform has a stepped recess at one end for receiving the window, which is accommodated in the stepped recess.

3. An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1, wherein the body has a flat end opposite from the window for receiving a disc of sintered ceramic material for sealing the aperture.

4. An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1, wherein the aperture in the preform has a surrounding formation which is collapsible on laser irradiation to seal the aperture, the aperture preferably being at an end of the preform opposite from the window.

5. An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 4, wherein the surrounding formation comprises an annular lip around the aperture.

6. An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1, wherein the ceramic material of the preform is of alumina ceramic or quartz.

7. An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1, wherein the window is of artificial sapphire or of quartz.

8. An electrodeless lamp comprising a lamp body according to claim 1, the body being sealed at its charging aperture and containing excitable material.

9. An electrodeless lamp according to claim 8, wherein the body has a flat end opposite from the window for receiving a disc of sintered ceramic material for sealing the aperture, the ceramic disc being sealingly adhered to the preform with the interposition of frit material.

10. An electrodeless lamp according to claim 8, wherein the aperture in the preform has a surrounding formation which is collapsible on laser irradiation to seal the aperture, the aperture being at an end of the preform opposite from the window, the formation around the aperture being collapsed to seal it.

11. A method of manufacturing an electrodeless lamp, comprising the steps of:

- forming a preform of green ceramic, the preform defining a hollow body shape with an aperture;
- pressing a window onto the preform;
- firing the green ceramic to fuse it and unite the window to the preform;
- charging excitable material into the hollow body;
- sealing the aperture.

12. A method of manufacturing an electrodeless lamp according to claim 11, including the step of placing a ceramic disc across the aperture and sealing it to the body.

13. A method of manufacturing an electrodeless lamp according to claim 12, wherein the ceramic disc is sealed to the body by irradiation with a laser.

14. A method of manufacturing an electrodeless lamp according to claim 11, wherein the aperture has a surrounding formation and it is sealed by collapsing the formation on itself by laser irradiation.

15. A method of manufacturing an electrodeless lamp according to claim 13, wherein the excitable material is charged into the hollow body whilst the latter is still hot from the firing of the preform and the laser irradiation also is carried out whilst the hollow body is still hot.

16. A method of manufacturing an electrodeless lamp according to claim 15, including flushing the lamp body with inert gas to cool it from its firing temperature and flush oxygen from it prior to injection of excitable material.

17. A method of manufacturing an electrodeless lamp according to claim 15, including evacuating the lamp body prior to injection of excitable material.